

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Attorney of Record Joe Cantanzaro on 4/6/2011.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the Abstract dated 3/30/2011, in line 8, "Sealing means, such as, for example, rubber strips," has been deleted and in line 8, please insert --Rubber strips-- before the word "extend".

In the specification dated 1/20/2006 (English translation), on page 4, II. 28, "Fig (sic)" has been deleted and --Figs.-- has been inserted.

In the specification dated 1/20/2006 (English translation), on page 5, II. 23, "(sic)" has been deleted.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. **Claims 1-3 and 5-20 are allowed.**

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments, see Remarks filed 3/30/2011, with respect to claims 1-20 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejections and objections of the non-final office action dated 9/30/2010 have been withdrawn.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ANDREW BAINBRIDGE whose telephone number is (571)270-3767. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 9 AM to 6 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kevin Shaver can be reached on 571-272-4720. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/A. B./
Examiner, Art Unit 3754

/Kevin P. Shaver/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art
Unit 3754